

PROBLEM III.—To describe a compound spiral.
—The compound spiral described in figure, Problem III., is constructed by Problems I. & II. The part *a b c d e*, &c., till we arrive at *m*, is made by Problem II.; the part *m n p q*, &c., is made by Problem I. By judicious combinations of Problems I. and II., many curious spirals may be formed.



THE CARTOONS.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—I read with the greatest pleasure, in your last number, the very judicious article devoted to the cartoons; and most truly do I sympathize with the liberal views therein expressed, especially with regard to the earnest appeal in favour of the gratuitous admission of the poorer classes within the sanctuary of the fine arts; and if I venture to address you the following remarks, it is less for the sake of offering any opinion on the present exhibition, than in hopes that a few general reflections on the subject may give a hint in time to the ruling powers, against the opening of a similar exhibition next June, according to the prospectus given in your journal. Now, I certainly viewed with interest, and, for the most part, with real gratification, the exhibition of the cartoons at Westminster-hall. Myself an enthusiastic admirer of the fine arts, nobody can appreciate more than I do the noble impulse which the British government has thus given to the worship of artistic genius—that second providence of nations—which in this day furnishes Rome with the scanty pittance of bread which saves her degenerate sons from famine and misery. But I could have wished that the competition which England has opened to the modern Michael Angelos, had been conducted with a greater spirit of impartiality; and that above all a committee should not have taken upon themselves, contrary to all precedents amongst other nations, to award the prizes before a public exhibition had taken place. To the public alone belonged the right of pointing out to the committee the candidates for its favour, through the medium of the press—its only efficient organ. What earthly interest can we—poor despised public—take in an exhibition where our judgment is not solicited, but where we are merely called upon to approve a ready-made decision, in which we have had no voice? In the name of common sense, is this a proper manner of conducting such a competition in a free nation, and one who is desirous of throwing off those prejudices which foreigners justly censure? Reason answers loudly: No!

It would be foreign to my purpose to enter into a critical examination of the designs that have won the prizes. Several of the works thus distinguished are possessed of real merit, as, for instance (No. 61) *Cæsar's First Invasion of Britain*, by Mr. Edward Armitage, which is a noble effort in the historical line, while others, on the contrary, such as the lifeless *St. Augustine* of Mr. Horsley (No. 109), or *Eleanor*, saving the life of her husband by sucking the poison from the wound in his arm, by Mr. Severn (No. 111), are any thing but satisfactory; in this last-mentioned cartoon in particular, there are unpardonable defects in the drawing—the attitude of *Eleanor* being scarcely even intelligible, and *Edward's* head being lamentably out of proportion with the rest of his body, &c. &c.

Besides, is it not an act of heinous injustice to exhibit on the topmost row, and in a bad light, those works which would require a nearer view to be examined with any chance of being properly appreciated? Three cartoons in particular suggested these reflections. (No. 112) *Thomas à Becket*, Archbishop of Canterbury, forbidding sentence to be read against him; (No. 21) *Margaret of Anjou* and her Son rubbed by a party of bandits, and (No. 42) *Eve* looking at her own image in a stream. This last composition, really worthy of Milton's "Paradise Lost," is entirely a dead letter as far as the public is concerned. By the help of a powerful opera glass alone were we enabled to catch a glimpse of the finish and delicacy of the design, which might

have been visible to the naked eye were it not for the invidious height at which it is placed.

To obviate these evils, Mr. Editor, why should we not at once adopt the plan pursued on the Continent with regard to the paintings of each year's exhibition? Namely, about the middle of the time that the exhibition lasts, the gallery is closed for a few days, and the pictures undergo a complete change of places. Some are brought into the broad glare of daylight, while others which had been highly favoured in the first instance, are in turn thrust into some dark corner, to stand by their own merits as best they may. Public opinion thus forcibly becomes founded at least on justice, and I have not the slightest doubt that, were such a plan pursued at Westminster-hall, very many of the designs hitherto disregarded would rise in public favour in proportion as others would inevitably sink. It appears to me that this would be but an act of justice which ought to be claimed from the "powers that be," not only for the sake of the exhibition, but for the honour of the country who, by setting the example of such a competition, has *ipso facto* shown itself deserving of the whitest of whitest marks in the history of the regeneration of the fine arts.

I remain, Sir, one of your constant readers,
A NON-CANDIDATE.

7th August.

Legislation.

A Bill (as amended by the Committee) to amend the Acts for carrying on Public Works in Ireland.—[N.B.—The Clause marked (A) was added by the Committee.]—The preamble recites "An act for the extension and promotion of public works in Ireland," 1 & 2 Will. 4. c. 33, and the several acts 6 & 7 Will. 4. c. 108; 1 Vict. c. 21; 1 & 2 Vict. c. 88; 2 & 3 Vict. c. 50, which amend and extend the same; that great benefits have been derived from loans under these several acts:

That it is expedient that such loans, together with the several powers of the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, should be continued:

That it is expedient to discontinue all further issues of exchequer bills made out under the first-recited act, or any of the acts amending the same, and to put an end to all operations with regard to such exchequer bills required by the said act, except such as may be necessary for paying off the outstanding bills, and for applying the repayments on account of loans made with such exchequer bills to make good the sums issued from the consolidated fund to pay the interest and principal on those bills:

That it is expedient to make advances of money out of the consolidated fund for the purposes of loans toward public works in Ireland, instead of the issues of exchequer bills hitherto adopted, which are found inconvenient:

And that the sums annually receivable, in repayment of existing loans heretofore made by the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, amount, and will amount for some years to come, to a sum which would be sufficient to furnish to a considerable extent means for making the requisite advances.

Section 1 enacts, That from and after such period as may be in that behalf determined upon by the Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, all further issues of exchequer bills under the said first-recited act, or any of the acts amending the same, shall be discontinued; and as soon as notice of such determination shall have been given to the commissioners appointed or to be appointed for the execution of the said first-recited act, they shall cause the same to be published in the *Dublin Gazette*, but this notice shall not be construed to be a notice within the provisions of the first-recited act for terminating the powers of the commissioners appointed or to be appointed for the execution thereof; and, notwithstanding the discontinuance of further issues of exchequer bills, the said Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury shall have all the powers by any of the said acts given for the purpose of paying off the interest and principal due on such exchequer bills.

Section 2 enacts, That as soon as such notice shall have been given to the said Commissioners of Public Works, they, or some person employed by them for that purpose, shall wind up and close the accounts of all outstanding loans or advances, under the authority of any of the said acts, up to the day on which such discontinuance of exchequer bills may take place.

Section 3 enacts, That all repayments shall be carried to the account of the consolidated fund.

Section 4 enacts, That the Commissioners of Public Works for the time being under the said first-recited act shall be commissioners for the execution of this act.

Section 5 enacts, that the said Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, by warrant under the hands of any three or more of them, may direct from time to time that out of the sum, not exceeding three

hundred and sixty thousand pounds per annum, which by 3 & 6 Vict. c. 9, they are authorized to charge on the consolidated fund of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and which they are authorized to direct to be paid to the account of the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt during the term of five years next ensuing the fifth day of April one thousand eight hundred and forty-two, by quarterly instalments or issues, not exceeding ninety thousand pounds per quarter, as aforesaid, there shall issue and be paid unto the said Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt during the remainder of the said term of five years, a sum not exceeding fifteen thousand pounds per quarter, to be at the disposal of the said Commissioners of Public Works, as hereinafter mentioned, such quarterly instalments or issues to become due on the fifth day of January, the fifth day of April, the fifth day of July, and the tenth day of October in each year, the first instalment thereof to become due and payable on the first of the said quarterly days of payment which shall happen next after the passing of this act.

Section 6 enacts, That for the purpose of receiving the said quarterly instalments, the said Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt shall cause a separate account to be opened with them at the Bank of England.

Section 7 enacts, That it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners of Public Works to receive application for any loan or loans, and, with the approval of the Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, to make such loans upon such and the like securities, and for such and the like purposes, and upon such and the like terms, as are specified by the said recited acts for the extension and promotion of public works in Ireland, or any of them, or as may be authorized by the Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury.

Section 8 enacts, That when the said Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury shall have sanctioned any loan under this act, or any of the above recited acts, and the said Commissioners of Public Works shall have ascertained that any sum of money is required to be issued on account of such loan, they shall forthwith certify the amount of such issue to the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt for the time being; and in every such certificate, the loan in part of which such issue is required, and the party or parties to whom such issue is intended to be made, shall be stated; and upon every such certificate being produced to the Officer of the said Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, the Comptroller-general, or Assistant Comptroller, or chief clerk acting under the last-named commissioners, shall upon the back of such certificate indorse and sign an order for payment of the sum mentioned in such certificate to the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, to be by them placed to the account of the Governor and Company of the Bank of Ireland, for the separate account and credit of the Paymaster of Civil Services in Ireland, on account of the Public Works Loan Fund for Ireland, to be by him paid over on the warrants of the said Commissioners of Public Works: Provided always, That approval of such issue by the Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury shall appear on such certificate, under the hand of one of their secretaries, and that the amount of such issue shall not exceed the sum for the time being standing in the names of the said Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, subject to the disposal of the said Commissioners of Public Works.

Section 9 provides the mode of making transfer.

Section 10 directs the Commissioners for the Reduction of National Debt to furnish annual account of fund for audit.

Section 11 directs the Governor and Company of the Bank of Ireland to open an account with the Paymaster of the Civil Services of Ireland, under the title of "the Paymaster of the Civil Services, on account of the repayment of loans for public works;" and monies which shall from time to time be repaid in respect of loans made under this act, or in respect of the interest thereof, shall be carried to the credit of this account.

Section 12 directs that the receipt of Paymaster, on being duly entered, shall be a proper discharge.

Section 13 orders all sums paid into the bank of Ireland to the account of the Paymaster of the Civil Services, to be carried to and made part of the consolidated fund.

Section 14 enacts, That all the enactments contained in the said recited acts relating to public works in Ireland, or any of them, in relation to any advances of exchequer bills, or money made or to be made under the said recited acts, or any of them, or for the recovery or repayment of such advances shall, except as is herein otherwise provided, extend to all loans of money to be made under the authority of this act, and to all things done or directed to be done by the said Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, or the said Commissioners of Public Works, or their Secretary for the time being,